

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF GUARDIANS

OF THE

CHICAGO REFORM SCHOOL,

TO THE

COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO,

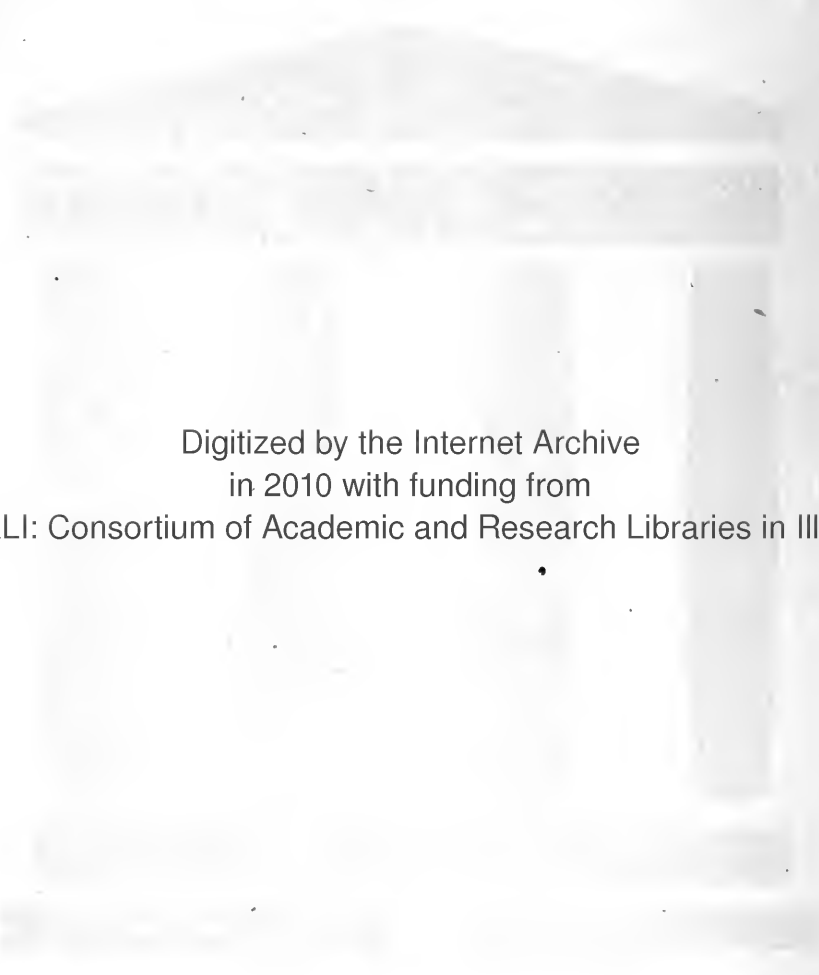
FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 31st, 1866.

CHICAGO :

KIDDER AND CO., STATIONERS AND PRINTERS, LAKE STREET.

1866.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2010 with funding from
CARLI: Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF GUARDIANS

OF THE

CHICAGO REFORM SCHOOL,

TO THE

COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 31st, 1866.

CHICAGO :

KIDDER AND CO., STATIONERS AND PRINTERS, LAKE STREET.

1866.

DEACCESSIONED BY
CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PRINTED COLLECTIONS

OFFICERS.

BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

HENRY SMITH,	N. S. DAVIS, M. D.,
J. H. GRAY,	JAMES McMULLEN,
WALTER KIMBALL,	HON. MARK SKINNER,
EDWIN S. WELLS,	

PRESIDENT.

HENRY SMITH.

SECRETARY.

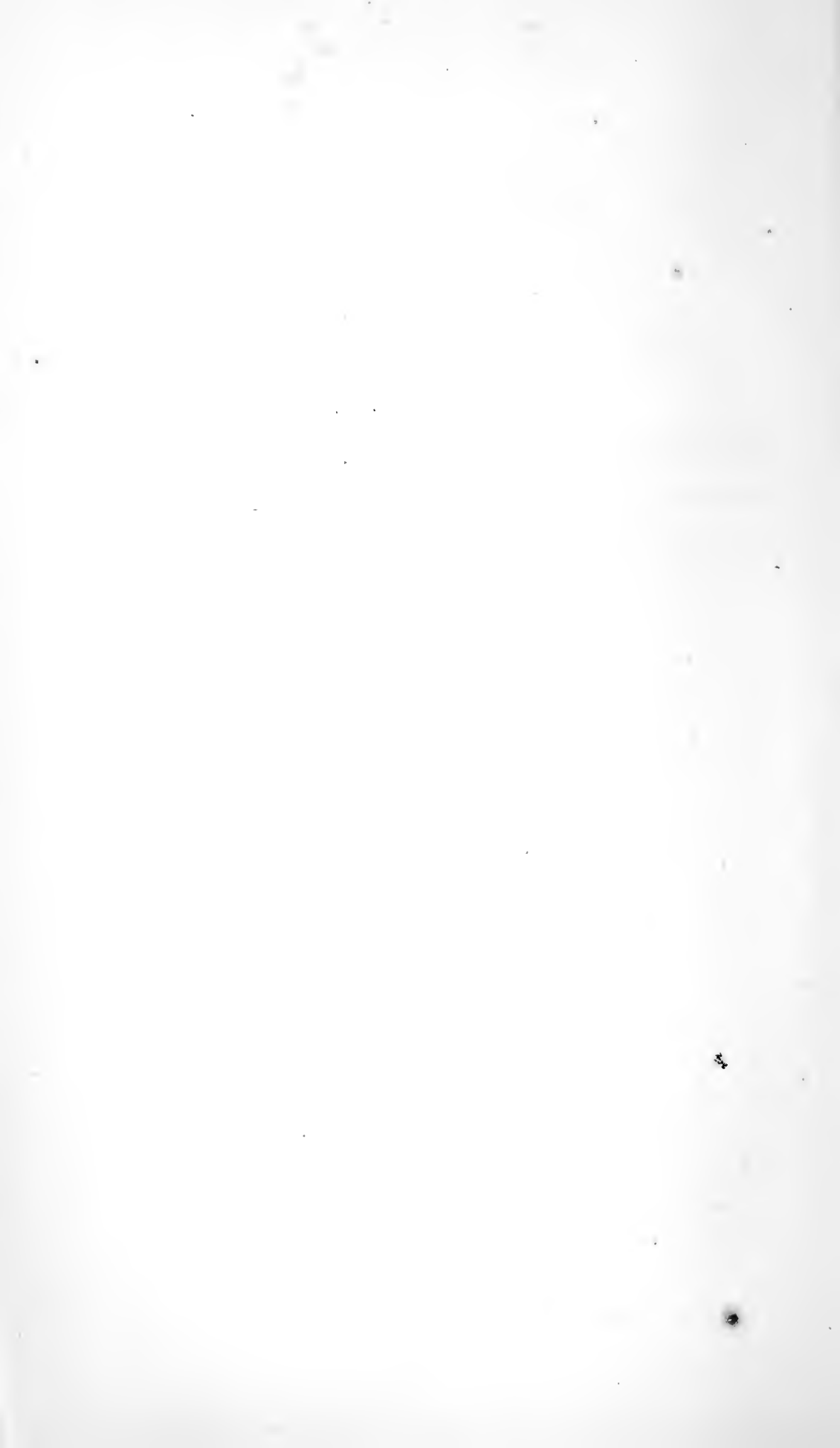
JOSEPH H. GRAY.

SUPERINTENDENT.

GEORGE W. PERKINS.

PHYSICIAN.

JOSEPH P. ROSS.



GUARDIAN'S REPORT.

*To the Hon. the Mayor and Aldermen of the Common Council
of the City of Chicago: '*

The Board of Guardians of the Chicago Reform School respectfully present the accompanying Report of the Superintendent for the year ending March 31, 1866, which will give you fully the history and operations of the School during the past year.

So far as our funds would permit, we have made improvements and further changes, carrying out our former arrangements in reference to the family plan, until we are now about ready for the accommodation of seven families in all; one of these will be in connection with our girls' department, which is about ready to receive inmates. Additional appropriations aside from the regular expenses of the school will be needed this year, both for sustaining the girls' department and for additional family buildings. In this connection we would also call your attention to the remarks of superintendent and physician in reference to special hospital accommodations. We fully indorse all that is said in this particular, and would urge that a special appropriation be made for this purpose. Our work departments are in progress of being better provided for than ever before, and we hope to successfully employ all our inmates during the coming year, in some department of labor, that will prove advantageous to them when they leave the school.

We take pleasure in presenting you the records of our institution for another year, and heartily commend an enter-

prise which accomplishes so much of good to your more especial care. The Reform School under its present management has rapidly improved in all its departments each year until we believe it will in every particular compare favorably with any of the institutions of this kind in the country. All of which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY SMITH, *President.*

J. H. GRAY, *Secretary.*

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHICAGO REFORM SCHOOL.

To the Board of Guardians :

GENTLEMEN,—It becomes my duty again to present you the Annual Report of this Institution, being for the tenth year ending March 31st, 1866 :

Total number of inmates received into the Institution, since its opening, November 30th, 1855	925
Number in School, April 1, 1865	198
Received from courts during year.....	89
“ in other ways.....	9
Total number in School during year	296
Sent out from the School during the year.....	78
Remaining in the School April 1, 1866.....	218
	<u>296</u>

The 78 boys in connection with the School on ticket of have been discharged during the year.

There have been received during the different months as follows :

April	11
May	11
June	10
July	5

August	16
September.....	6
October	5
November.....	6
December	1
January	5
February.....	5
March	8
	<hr/>
	89

Those received confessed to:

Grand larceny	3
Petit larceny	44
Vagrancy	11
Homeless	6
Truancy.....	8
Incorrigible.....	15
Intemperance	2
	<hr/>
	89

Their occupation was:

Attending school	16
Boot blacks.....	6
Worked in shops	10
Roamed in streets	21
Waiters in saloons or hotels.....	7
Butchers	1
Errand boys	11
In stores	4
Tending bridge	1
Farm	6
Newsboys	4
Soldiers	2
	<hr/>
	89

The nativity of those received is:

New York	24
Massachusetts.....	2

Illinois.....	22
California	1
Ohio.....	6
Wisconsin	3
Connecticut	2
Pennsylvania	3
Michigan.....	2
Maine	2
Arkansas.....	1
Rhode Island	1
Missouri	2
Ireland	3
Germany.....	5
Canada	5
England	4
Sweden	1
	<hr/>
	89

Their parentage is as follows:

Irish	32
German.....	15
English	5
Scotch	2
American	25
Norwegian	2
African	6
Canadian.....	1
French.....	1
	<hr/>
	89

Their ages were:

Eight years of age.....	1
Nine “	1
Ten “	8
Eleven “	9
Twelve “	14
Thirteen “	13
Fourteen “	14

Fifteen years of age.....	18
Sixteen “.....	11
	<hr/>
	89

As to the social condition of their homes :

Had lost both parents.....	16
“ their fathers	22
“ “ mothers	16
Had step parents.....	18
“ intemperate parents.....	6
“ “ fathers	9
Parents kept saloon.....	3
“ quarreled	5
“ were religious.....	9
Had fathers in army	7

The average age of those received during the year is 13 years, 2 months and 9 days.

Average number in connection with the School, 221.

The number received into the school during the year has been larger than for either of the two previous years ; but the discharges have also been in larger proportion, so that our numbers have not very rapidly increased. We have in the school to-day twenty more inmates than at this time last year. The average age of those received is about one year and three months more than it was three years ago. In view of this fact, we would again call your attention to the consideration of how the younger children in our city, who lack proper parental care, can be best sought out and cared for, until their life shall be turned into a proper channel. There seems to be a growing tendency to overlook misdemeanors in the young until they pass along to such an age as to begin to have their habits well matured in a life of idleness, wickedness, and vagrancy. The number of youth brought before our different courts, who have just passed the age of being admissible to reformatory training, and are, consequently, sent to some place of punishment, speaks too plainly of the necessity of some plan

being adopted by our authorities, which shall more speedily and effectually provide for the care of young children whose parents neglect them; or, what is even worse, in many cases, train them to vice, instead of virtue. Unless a person is constantly coming in contact with the youth of our city, one can scarcely realize what a number of parents entirely fail of any attempt whatever to train their children aright, even when you put the most liberal construction on what may constitute right training.

It is a matter of more than equal importance, that while our city provides for a police force, who shall protect it against lawlessness and disorder, and arrest those who offend, that a patrol force should also be established, which shall look after the habits and culture of the young; thus, in the future, protecting us against older offenders.

WORK DEPARTMENTS.

The average number of boys employed in the different departments of the institution have been as follows:

Shoe shop.....	88
Tailor shop	18
General work shop	48
Farm	15
Dormitories	7
Bakery and kitchen.....	5
Laundry	4
Dining rooms.....	6
General work.....	30
	221

In the laundry there have been washed and ironed 44,218 pieces.

GENERAL WORK SHOP.

Pairs of stockings knit.....	274
“ “ mended	1,461
Pounds of curled hair picked	20,001
Chairs cane seated	731
Baskets made:	
Market	798
Dinner	108
Egg.....	30
Clothes	24
	960

TAILOR SHOP.

ARTICLES.	MADE.	MENDED.
Jackets	341	1,243
Pants.....	433	1,379

THE CHICAGO REFORM SCHOOL.

13

ARTICLES.	MADE.	MENDED.
Caps	329	337
Shirts	342	2,681
Pillow ticks	131	119
Mattress ticks.....	64	188
Aprons	70	50
Sheets	257	334
Pillow cases	117	134
Towels.....	161	92
Spreads	86	56
Blankets		236
Table cloths	32	44

SHOE SHOP.

Pairs of men's kip boots fitted	56,760
“ “ calf “	5,613
“ boys’ “	13,884
“ youths’ “	5,712
“ men's brogans fitted.....	1,350
“ boys' boots bottomed.....	7,416
“ youths’ “	3,636
“ men's brogans bottomed	1,362
“ boys' shoes made	180
“ “ “ mended	618

GARDEN AND FARM.

Bushels of peas	15
“ beans	10
“ tomatoes.....	20
“ cucumbers	40
“ sweet corn	36
“ beets.....	52
“ parsnips	32
“ turnips	24
“ carrots	41
“ onions	116
Heads cabbage	1,309
Melons and squashes	1,216
Pounds of willows	1,800
“ pork.....	1,616

The amount earned by the boys on work aside from that required for themselves is as follows :

General work shop.....	\$876 19
Shoe shop	10,426 78
	<hr/>
	\$11,302 97

The reports from this department show an increase in the earnings of the boys over last year of \$1,195, also quite an increase in the quantity of work done. Besides the regular work of the shops, the boys have done about \$2,000 worth of work in connection with the improvements of the year, such as excavating for buildings, grading grounds, and rebuilding fences, etc., etc.

Our work shops are each year being more thoroughly systematized and developed, until any doubt there may have been as to employing our own overseers, and contracting for such quantities of work as we need, instead of contracting the labor of the boys by the day, has been fully removed, and the fact clearly established that both morally and financially it is much better that all parties connected with the government or instruction of the boys in any way, should be officers of the institution, and under its control. We have been very much crippled in our operations for want of room. Especially was this the case during the last summer and fall. We commenced work shops in cane-seating chairs and basket making, but were obliged to suspend work in both of them, on account of the crowded condition of our school. The building erected late last fall, 40 + 100, especially for work purposes, will, when completed, greatly relieve us in this respect. We hope soon to resume both of the departments of work above named, and have an opportunity afforded us of successfully employing every inmate of the school.

FINANCES.

Inventory of Furniture and Stores on hand, March 31, 1866:

Family No. 2 furniture.....	\$648 36
" 3 " 	133 19
Office and library furniture	119 01
School books and " 	346 60
Dining room " 	141 73
Dormitories, bedding and furniture	1,221 27
Clothing	2,896 32
Shoe shop furniture and tools	964 18
Bath room and warming room furniture	112 90
Boys' kitchen furniture	35 11
Laundry " 	123 47
Officers' departments furniture and bedding...	2,064 92
Hospital furniture	121 05
Tailor shop	38 58
Provisions and stores on hand	3,888 07
Farming tools	159 70
Farm stock	632 00
Carpenter's tools	26 36
Willows.....	125 00
Lumber	316 00
	<hr/>
	\$14,113 82

Our expenditures for the year has been as follows:

PROVISIONS.

Flour	\$2,834 30
Corn meal.....	125 27
Starch	12 63

Potatoes	\$462 29
Molasses	1,042 20
Beans	76 43
Codfish	208 19
Salt	32 25
Tea	187 20
Vinegar	54 03
Coffee	171 05
Butter	677 58
Rice	339 42
Pepper	23 00
Hops	10 50
Saleratus	6 60
Cream tartar	25 00
Soda	2 50
Ginger	9 50
Sugar	496 96
Salt pork	195 10
Fresh meat	2,270 81
Lard	161 25
Eggs	18 00
Milk	70 00
Hominy	173 73
Small groceries	56 80
Ice	20 50
Mustard	8 30
Chocolate	4 20
Bread	1,813 95
Allspice	7 00
	<hr/>
	\$11,596 54

CLOTHING.

Satinetts and Cassimeres	\$1,990 77
Shirting	410 80
Linings and canvas	326 63
Wadding	10 00
Hats and caps	73 00

THE CHICAGO REFORM SCHOOL.

17

Shoes.....	\$558 61
Collars.....	22 50
Suspenders	45 00
Buttons	50 50
Thread	110 95
Stockings	27 50
	<hr/>
	\$3,626 26

HOUSEHOLD DRY GOODS.

Sheeting	\$411 74
Combs and brushes.....	33 06
Ticking	124 33
Table linen	149 70
Crash.....	28 45
Pins, needles, and thimbles	13 23
	<hr/>
	\$760 51

FURNITURE.

Beds and bedding	\$868 68
Stoves and pipe	397 31
Crockery and glassware	170 18
Wooden ware.....	78 75
Cutlery	64 91
Lamps and lanterns.....	98 49
School books and furniture.....	324 00
Carpenter's tools	41 07
Farming tools	323 88
Bureaus, tables and chairs	164 50
Tin ware	80 95
Brooms and brushes	117 12
Mirrors	10 00
Sewing machine	70 80
Hose and sprinklers	82 50
Safe	125 00
Hardware	21 91
	<hr/>
	\$3,040 05

OFFICERS' SALARIES.

Superintendent and assistant	}	\$6,779 61
Matron		
Four teachers		
Clerk		
Overseer in family 2		
" " 3		
" " 4		
" main yard		
" tailor shop		
" on farm		
" in basket shop		
" chair shop		
Cook and baker	}	
Steward		
Watchman		
Laundress		

GENERAL EXPENSES.

Matches	\$11 35
Shoe blacking	14 50
Shoe shop expenses	4,501 24
General work shop expenses	217 75
Farm labor, seeds and plants	542 77
Live stock	238 01
Burning oil	443 26
Stationery	132 05
Festivals	244 88
Manure	258 00
Fodder	533 14
Taxes	123 50
Hoisting rope	8 50
Boys' drums, repairing, etc.	23 00
Sundries	29 67
Bath brick	4 25
Railroad fares and livery	110 70
Medicine and medical attendance	349 55
Stamps, postage and revenue	63 25

Fuel	\$2,645 95
Printing annual report, etc.	219 71
Funeral expenses.....	55 50
Insurance	377 38
Legal expenses.....	191 45
Teaming	323 64
New and enlarged wind mill.....	905 15
Reform school commissioner.....	1,000 00

\$13,568 15

REPAIRS.

Paints, oil, and glass	65 62
Lumber	121 70
Hardware	29 35
Services as carpenter	120 00
Plumbing	43 91
Lime and stucco	4 50
Roofing, etc	26 75

\$411 83

IMPROVEMENTS.

Family buildings, 2 and 3	\$17,485 72
New work shop	5,891 05
Lime, stucco and cement	119 70
Lath	40 00
Lumber	688 28
Hardware (locks, nails, etc.)	182 80
Teaming	469 15
Trees	103 95
Services of carpenter	927 54
Paints, oil and glass	406 82
Services of mason	205 00
Plumbing	138 76
Moving buildings.....	189 00
856 lbs. new lead pipe	161 01
Sawdust	19 76
Fence posts	61 50
Brick building, chimneys, etc.	393 90

\$27,483 94

RECEIPTS.

Shoe shop credit	\$10,426 78
General work shop	876 19
Board workmen and boys	1,236 50
Empty barrels sold	57 45
	<hr/>
	\$12,596 92

DEBITS.

Provisions.....	\$11,596 54
Clothing	3,626 26
Household dry goods	760 51
Furniture	3,040 05
Officers' salaries	6,779 61
General expenses.....	13,568 15
Repairs	411 83
Improvements	27,483 94
	<hr/>

Total expenditure for the year	\$67,266 89
Deduct am't p'd for improvements..	\$27,483 94
" " commissioner..	1,000 00
" " receipts	12,596 92
	<hr/>
	\$41,080 86

Current expenses for the year	\$26,186 03
-------------------------------------	-------------

Gladly would we have made our expenses, either in improvements or current expenses, less, if such could have been the case in justice to the school. Considering the extreme high prices for provisions and clothing during the past year, it has required the strictest economy to keep our current expenses as low as they have been, which are in excess of last year about \$1,600. About \$10,000 of our improvement fund has been expended in the establishing of a girl's branch, which being now nearly ready for occupancy, will need an additional estimate for current expenses the coming year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A building capable of accommodating thirty girls, has been completed during the year, and a yard enclosed for the same, and we are now ready to receive inmates in this department. Another family building for boys has also been erected, and is nearly completed and ready for occupancy. The two-story frame building on the front of our premises, and the building used as a store room have been moved to the south line of our grounds, and fitted up with good basements, the former for general cooking and dining room purposes, and the latter for general storage purposes. Two of our wooden buildings proved themselves entirely unfit for further use last fall, and we were obliged, although late in the season, to erect a third building to accommodate our work departments. Under your instructions we erected a plain brick building, 40 + 100 feet, one story and a basement, in such a manner that an additional story can be added, whenever we have the funds to complete it. The rooms in this building are nearly ready for occupancy, and, when available, will greatly relieve the crowded state of our shops, as well as enable us to furnish work for a number of our inmates whom we have not been able to successfully employ for want of room.

With these and other improvements, the general plan and arrangements of our buildings and grounds have been materially altered in such a manner as, we believe, will, in many respects, improve the comfort and cheerful aspect of the school. Many of these changes are not yet fully completed, but we trust will be during the coming season. The gales of last spring entirely demolished our wind mill, and one of the rosette mills has been erected during the year in its place, at a cost of \$905.15. This, we believe, with other proper facilities, will furnish us with an abundant supply of water. Our well at the lake, however, needs to be changed during the present year, and placed in a more secure location, and the pipes leading from the mill to the school need to be taken up, and larger ones placed in their stead — the present ones not

being large enough to supply the school as rapidly as it is frequently needed.

We have now sufficient room to divide our school into seven families: four of whom we have already in successful operation; the other three we shall soon be able to accommodate in their new quarters. Enough has already been developed with us under the family system to, I believe, fully convince us of its many advantages and benefits over the congregated system. Allowing an increase the present year of only 22 inmates in both departments, we shall need one more building to accommodate the school in families of thirty each, in order to prevent our being very much crowded. There is every probability that we shall need one additional building provided for each of the departments. We believe our families would be the better if 25 constituted the number, instead of 30; but we rejoice to be able to report progress so far as we do in reference to this improved change in the management of our institution.

Last winter the pipes between the mill and well froze during the extreme cold weather—a fact that has not occurred before in the history of the school. During the slow progress of digging in frozen ground, and having the pipes thawed out, we were very much troubled for water, and sometimes very short in our supply. Sore eyes, with ophthalmia, in quite a severe form, developed itself in the school at this time, and has attacked quite a number of the boys. Though now having our usual supply of water, we do not as yet obtain relief from the disease. Every precaution and care is being taken in reference to these cases that can be taken as we are situated for facilities and room. In this connection I would especially call your attention to the recommendation of our physician as to hospital room, and a proper nurse for the care of the department. Though our school is generally very healthy, and the inmates requiring hospital treatment have been few, yet a school the size of this ought not to be without a building and arrangements specially provided for this purpose. The matter becomes all the more urgent amid the

many preparations which are being made by our city for the preservation of health during the coming summer.

The "Chicago Republican," "Chicago Evening Journal," "Christian Times and Witness," and "Little Corporal," all published in this city, and the "Advocate and Guardian" published in New York, have been furnished us regularly through the kindness of the publishers.

We have received a handsome cannon for the use of the boys, 4th July, from N. S. Boughton, a young heifer from F. H. Sleeper, a valuable donation of shrubbery and provisions from John McAllister, of Waukegan, and are also under obligation to the Illinois Central Railroad for favors shown us in behalf of the boys during the year. For our band we have received \$5 from Moses Fuller, \$10 from Henry Kline, \$5 from one and \$2 from another of our boys, also one cornet and two flutes from P. I. Warner; to all of these and others who have in kindly ways remembered the Reform School, our thanks are most cheerfully tendered.

Quite an interest has been manifested by the boys in music, as the opportunities for instruction have been afforded, and as our band has become more fully developed until we have at the present time 35 boys in a field band who play very well and serve a good purpose in helping to make Reform School life cheerful and pleasant. The donation of \$200 from our boys in the army, noted in our report last year, together with the favors acknowledged this past year from friends of the school in the city, have helped us to make quite a fair beginning in the musical line, but a further generosity on the part of these interested in the school will be necessary to continue a department which our boys would now feel exceedingly sorry to be deprived of.

The boys have enjoyed the usual number of holidays and special privileges during the year in a similar manner as noted in our previous reports. Specially among these may be noticed, May 1st, 1865, when the remains of our late President arrived in Chicago. Our entire school was ready at an early hour, and marched to the Reform School depot

where a special train was in readiness at nine o'clock to take us to the city. Arriving there, we took the place assigned us in the procession and marched with it to the Court House, where the procession being dismissed, we returned to Park Row at three o'clock, and there taking a train, returned home. The boys were much pleased with the part they were allowed to take in the funeral ceremonies; their behavior was most gratifying to those who had them in charge, and won praise and admiration from all who saw them.

July 4th. We varied the exercises of this day somewhat by admitting visitors during the day to all departments of the school, those in attendance having the privileges of the grounds unattended. The grounds were full of visitors all the afternoon, and the boys were allowed to mingle freely with their parents and friends, and conduct them through the school. In the early part of the afternoon the boys gave an exhibition of our industrial departments, and under charge of captains of their own choice, from their number, went through a military parade in main yard, after which they gathered in the school room and listened to addresses from Col. Henry Smith, President of the Board of Guardians, and aldermen Clark and Bond of the Common Council. After these exercises the school repaired to one of the family yards where tables were set in the grove and a dinner of good things furnished the boys. About thirty former inmates of the school were present with us and participated in the exercises.

Aside from these and several other special days which have been granted to the boys, they have continued their usual custom of going to the lake to bathe summer evenings, and recreations of this kind which have helped to make the life of those committed to our charge happy and cheerful.

In our school department the boys have made good progress during the year, as the reports presented by our Principal will show you. My Assistant and Principal of the school, Mr. Peter Caldwell, was called to Louisville, Kentucky, in February, to take charge of a similar institution

there, and is now actively engaged in his new field of labor; he has our best wishes for his success in the undertaking. We have had a larger number than usual of visits from former inmates of the school during the past year, both from boys who have been in the army, and those who are located in homes in different parts of the State. These, together with letters received during the year from former inmates and their employees, have been very encouraging; it strengthens us in our endeavors for the advancement of this class of youth, to know that many of those who have been here in former years have heeded and profited by the instruction they have received. The religious exercises of the school have been conducted as usual during the year, and we cheerfully acknowledge the favors shown us by those who have assisted us in the services.

Owing to the numerous changes which have necessarily been made during the year, in the course of our improvements, the duties of the school have been unusually arduous to all connected with it. To those of our officers who have so promptly responded to the requirements of the school, both regular and extra, our thanks are specially due. Again expressing to you my appreciation of your continued kindness to, and confidence reposed in me, during the past year, I respectfully submit you this, our Tenth Annual Report.

GEORGE W. PERKINS,
Superintendent.

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

To the Board of Guardians of the Chicago Reform School:

GENTLEMEN:—I take pleasure in submitting herewith my Tenth Annual Report, as Physician of the School, for the year ending March 31st, 1866.

During this time but two deaths occurred: John Robinson died on the 4th of July, from an accident; Thomas Rumsey died of pneumonia on the 2d of August, after a short illness.

The health of the school during the year has been good; but few severe cases of sickness occurred. The principal cases treated were several accidents, six cases of dysentery, two of pneumonia, five of rheumatism, and twelve or fifteen cases (worthy of note) of ophthalmia.

The latter disease made its appearance in the school, early this spring, and very soon several cases occurred of a very severe character. Two of this number I thought advisable to transfer for treatment to the Charitable Eye Infirmary, under the excellent care of Dr. Holmes, oculist. They remained three weeks in the Infirmary under treatment; when convalescence was fully established, they were returned to the school. They have now almost fully recovered. A large number of those under treatment in the school have recovered without accident. Several are yet under medical treatment. New cases are now but seldom developed. The contagious character of the disease was early discovered, and all the cases were secluded, as well as the crowded condition of the school would permit. A great want has been felt in not having a suitable room in which to place the sick cases, and a reliable nurse having the care of administering the remedies, etc. This want is doubly felt at this time.

I would respectfully ask for improved hospital accommodations, and would suggest that a separate building be erected for this purpose, in a quiet and secluded locality, sufficiently removed from the school to prevent the communication of contagion or infection. And I would beg leave further to recommend the appointment of a matron or reliable nurse, who could be held responsible for the proper care and nursing of the sick. The establishment of an hospital and the appointment of a nurse are now absolutely essential in securing the best results from the efforts of your physician.

I would congratulate the Board on the approved sanitary measures so vigorously being prosecuted by your efficient Superintendent. These effected, with the improvements recommended above, will place the school in the most favorable condition to meet the threatened epidemic, and which, if cholera should not appear, will be eminently useful in promoting the health and happiness of the school.

Having been with you in the infancy of this enterprise, I am happy to note the enlarged field of usefulness to which this noble institution has attained.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH P. ROSS, M. D.

CHICAGO, *April 1st*, 1866.

TEACHER'S REPORT.

To the Superintendent and Guardians of the Chicago Reform School :

I have the honor of submitting to you the Tenth Annual Report of the School in connection with this Institution, for the year ending March 31st, 1866.

The whole number under instruction at the commencement of the year..... 198
 There have been received during the year..... 98

Whole number under instruction during the year.... 296
 Have left the School..... 78

Of the 98 received into the School, their attainments were as follows :

IN READING.

Did not know the Alphabet.....	10
Commenced in Primer.....	17
" First Reader.....	15
" Second "	16
" Third "	35
" Fourth "	5

98

IN ARITHMETIC.

Never studied any Arithmetic.....	42
Had studied Primary First Class.....	15
" " Addition Practical.....	16
" " Denominate numbers.....	14
" " Fractions.....	11

98

IN WRITING.

Never had written.....	53
Could write easy words.....	24
Could write legibly.....	21
	<hr/>
	98

IN GEOGRAPHY.

Never studied Geography.....	63
Had studied Primary to United States.....	26
" " South America.....	9
	<hr/>
	98

There are now 218 boys in School, whose standing is as follows:

Do not know the Alphabet.....	3
Read in Sander's Primer.....	16
" " 1st Reader.....	29
" " 2d " 	39
" " 3rd " 	63
" " 4th " 	24
" " 5th " 	22
" " History	22
	<hr/>
	218
Spell and define.....	171

ARITHMETIC.

Are not studying Arithmetic.....	47
Studied Davies' Primary to Subtraction.....	25
" " Multiplication.....	25
" " Division	22
" " Fractions.....	28
" " Intellectual.....	19
" " Practical to denominate numbers.....	24
" " Fractions	15
" " Percentage.....	13
	<hr/>
	218

WRITING.

Write on Slates.....	42
Use Spencer's No. 1.....	41
“ “ 2.....	28
“ “ 3.....	24
“ “ 4.....	29
“ “ 5.....	8
“ “ 6.....	16
“ “ 7.....	16
“ “ 8.....	11
“ “ 9.....	3
	<hr/>
	218

IN GEOGRAPHY.

Studied Primary Geography.....	16
“ McNally's 4th part, Advanced Class.....	22
“ “ 2d “ “ “	21
	<hr/>
	59

The following promotions have been made during the year :

Promoted from Alphabet to Primer.....	8
“ Primer to First Reader.....	13
“ 1st Reader to 2d “	37
“ 2d “ 3d “	34
“ 3rd “ 4th “	21
“ 4th “ 5th “	20
“ 5th “ History	12
Promoted to Primary Arithmetic.....	32
“ Intellectual “	35
“ Practical “	25
“ Geography	27
“ Writing	60
Of the 98 boys who have been committed to the care of the Institution during the past year, say they have never attended any school.....	9
Less than six months.....	10

Over six months and less than one year.....	13
One year and less than two years.	14
Two years and less than three years.....	12
Three years and less than four years.....	17
Four years and less than five years.....	18
Five years and less than six years.....	5

So far as the general arrangement of the School is concerned, no particular change has been made. The departments remain the same as they were at the last report, which, at present, is undoubtedly the best plan that can be adopted.

In regard to the present condition of the "*School Department*" I have but a few words to offer. The figures of the preceding tables will present the matter as far as mere figures can. As to the past rate of advance and improvement in the school, of course I can not judge, from the fact of the short period of time since I entered upon my duties here.

There is however, evidently an improvement in some respects on last year's attainments, as indeed there ought to be from year to year. It would be strange if there were none. There is much labor done and progress made in such a school as ours which mere figures cannot express. Teachers are emphatically sowers and not always reapers. They till the soil, often barren and sterile enough, and scatter the seed as best they can. Much of it finds little or no root or moisture, and presently withers away. But it is the teacher's duty still to work on in hope, and thus "learn to labor and to wait." The class of children and youth which it falls to our lot to guide and instruct, is made up of those who have but few true friends. Ours is emphatically a missionary work in a field important in the present, and which promises much for the future. We hope, and have reason to believe, that the labors of the past year have not been in vain. Patience, next to an aptness to teach, is

one of the most needed qualities of the teacher ; and thus, by a mutual action, is there developed, both in teacher and pupil, a higher life ; a growth which, though slow to reach maturity, shall be the more lasting. The most we can hope and labor for as teachers, is to educate the mind and purify the heart. This we strive to do, and to live in hope that, by the blessing of God on our efforts, the worst may be improved, the best be made better, and both encouraged and aided to a higher life, and induced to reach out after nobler attainments. Thus fortified in mind and character, be it our mission to train these erring youth, often more sinned against than sinning, so that when they go out into the world they may be prepared to meet its duties and responsibilities like men and christians.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. M. BINGHAM, *Principal.*

APPENDIX.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS

*From Parties with whom Boys who have gone out from the
School are living.*

FEBRUARY 21, 1866.

DEAR SIR,—B. is still with me, and conducts himself well. He learns to do all kinds of farm work readily. He has taken extra good care of his yoke of steers, and seems much pleased with the idea of owning a yoke of oxen by and by. He is improving in reading, spelling, etc., and recites to me evenings. He seems to think a great deal of his brother, and seemed much pleased when I told him you said his brother was in honor. He is a good boy, and on the whole a boy of considerable character. He is not afraid to tell the truth. Our neighbors all speak well of him, and he seems contented and happy.

Respectfully yours.

JANUARY 4, 1866.

DEAR SIR.—In answer to your note concerning my son D., I would say he is well, and going to school every day, and his teacher seems to be well pleased with his progress. I consider myself deeply indebted to you for your kindness, and for your still taking a deep interest in his welfare. Believe me, as ever,

Yours respectfully.

JUNE 14, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I returned to this city a few days since, and find to my great satisfaction, D. looking much improved in personal appearance, as well as in behavior and conduct. I am under great obligations to yourself and the officers of your Institution for the interest you have taken in his case, and I trust that D.'s after life may sustain the good opinion which you have of him. I remain,

Truly and respectfully yours.

JULY 9, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—Yours was received to-day. J. is going to school this summer, and works about four hours per day. He would like to make a visit to the Reform School, and see you and the boys. I think very probably he will go to Chicago this fall with me, and make a little visit. He is getting along very well; has got to be a large, strong boy, and I think will be a good deal of help to me this summer. He has made considerable progress in his studies.

Respectfully.

OCTOBER 5, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I take this opportunity of informing you that we are all well at present. I sent C. to writing school, and he took the prize for the greatest improvement, out of one hundred and twenty-three scholars. There was a good deal of feeling about it with our farmers' sons and daughters, to think that our poor Reform School boy should pull the tassels off their caps in that style. Some wanted to buy it of him, but I told him he should not sell it. I will bring it with me sometime when I come; it will be a nice thing to show to his fellow schoolmates.

Respectfully yours.

JUNE 24, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—H. and M. are well, and getting along finely. Thus far H.'s health has been very good ever since he came here. He is growing larger, and stouter, and I trust better, every day. He seems well contented, and I think he means to be an honest, trustworthy boy; he seems to be forming better principles, and to have purer aspirations since he has been here, and sees how other farmer boys aspire to be men, to acquire property, and to be worthy citizens. The boys want to come to the school on the Fourth of July, but I thought I would not encourage them until I heard from you. Please let me hear from you.

Respectfully yours.

JANUARY 2, 1866.

DEAR SIR,—Yours came duly to hand, and in respect to F., have to say, that he is a good boy, has a good home and kind friends, and we are well satisfied with each other. When it is convenient, I purpose bringing him over to visit the school, and you will then see how finely he has grown, and hear from himself. He regularly attends school. He wishes to be kindly remembered to his old school-mates and kind friends.

Yours respectfully.

JUNE 29, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I now take the opportunity of informing you that I like C. very well. He behaves himself well, and I think, is going to learn pretty well our rules out here in the country. He has been going to school for the past two months. He says he wants you to take care of his Bible, that his teacher gave him, until you can send it to him. I hope you will excuse my negligence in not writing sooner, but he behaves himself very well, and that is the reason why I have not answered your last. If you want any further particulars, please write and let me know.

Yours truly.

AUGUST 16, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I have just been shown a letter from you to H., dated the 1st, and I am truly much obliged to you for the good advice and interest you take in him. He has the talents, qualifications, and, I think, the good principles in him to make a good and correct man. He is kind to his mother, and a great help to her in getting along; besides, is good company. He has wonderful mechanical genius, and I have no doubt, if he remains in this country, he will, in a very short time, be able to make good wages, and acquire business habits that will be of great use to him through life. Hoping you will continue to take an interest in him, I am,

Very respectfully, yours, etc.

JANUARY 4, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—Your kind favor was duly received, and I feel very grateful for the continued interest you take in S. After staying in the country through the summer, he has come home, and is attending school. His health is very good, and on the whole he is a very good boy, and in every way is trying to make the best of life. Mr. N., the man he worked for says, he never saw a better boy; was kind, obedient, and true in every way, and thus he has been since he came home. I think he is trying in every way to do what is right and just. He has grown finely so you would hardly know him. We feel very much encouraged about him; and now, sir, I wish you, and those connected with you, in the great and good work in which you are engaged, great success. May God bless and prosper you in your labors to do good.

Respectfully yours.

MAY 13, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—At S.'s request, I write you a line to inform you that he is well and well-pleased with his home with us. He appears to be enjoying himself finely; says he likes living upon a farm first-rate. He has been quite well and happy ever since he has been here, and has been a good boy. S. wishes you to write him as to how his brother is getting along, and what grade he is in. He says you must write him how all the boys are getting along in the school. Hoping you may find it convenient to write us a letter soon, I am,

Respectfully yours.

MAY 5, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I take pleasure in informing you that B., the boy you furnished me about two years ago, continues to give entire satisfaction, and is, I believe, rapidly fitting himself to become a useful and valuable member of society. In the course of my business for the last twenty years, I have employed a great number of boys, but never one more capable or trusty than B. He remembers with much gratitude your kindness to him, and I do not doubt that the principles instilled into his mind, during his sojourn at your excellent institution will have a permanent influence upon his life.

Very truly yours.

LETTERS FROM BOYS.

APRIL 3, 1865.

DEAR FRIEND,—I pen you a few lines to let you know that I am in the land of the living yet. H. got two letters from you lately. I have been in seventeen battles, and never got a scratch yet; but I was taken prisoner at the battle of Stone River, and they took me to Richmond and put me in Libby prison, and kept me there one month, till I was exchanged. I would like you to send me a pocket Bible, and your photograph with it. The war is pretty near over at last; then I can come home and see you all. I want to ask you if you can get me a place to work when I get out of the army. Give my best respects to all, and write soon.

Yours truly.

AUGUST 28, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—Having just returned from the country, I improve the present time to write you. I have been down to my old home, making my friends a visit, and I tell you I had a very pleasant time indeed. My school commences again the latter part of next month, when I expect to attend again, with my brother. I am going away to-morrow to my uncle's, and I will be obliged if you will write me a letter to his care. I expect to remain there until school commences, when I expect to attend three more terms yet. I am well pleased with the school and my teachers, and think I am making good progress in my studies. I tell Pa I do not like the city, and therefore he lets me go into the country. My love to all the officers and boys.

I am your obedient servant.

JANUARY 9, 1866.

MR. PERKINS,—I thought I would write a few lines to you this evening, to let you know that I am yet alive and well. I presume you all thought I was scalped by the Indians; but not yet. Since I wrote you last I have been in Colorado and Idaho, and at present am in Utah, twenty-five miles from the great Salt Lake City, in the silver mines. I have got some claims here, and I want to hold on to them until I get something for them—they will bring me a good price some day. The mines here are not yet developed, but are newly discovered. I have been prospecting all summer, and made my claims real estate; now I have to wait until machinery gets in here. I do all my cooking, and washing, and mending, and have a house eighteen feet by twenty-four all to myself. I tell you prospecting makes clothes and money go fast. Thousands come here, in the far west, to make their fortune, and go back because they cannot pick up the gold in pieces as big as flat-irons. I am here to make money, and mean to make it, if I have to stay in the mountains until I am gray headed. I hope that this may reach you and family, officers and boys, all in good health. I would be very much obliged to you if you would write me a good long letter in answer to this, and let me know what changes you make by this time in your institution. My very best respects to all. This you have from one of your Reform School boys.

NOVEMBER 3, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I am here at work in the same place with J. Since I came here, I have been keeping accounts of trees and plants that workmen dig. The proprietor thinks he can give me employment for the winter in the office, doing such writing as he may have for me to do. I have endeavored to follow the advice

you last gave me, and think I shall yet make something in the world. If you find time to write, do so, and I will answer. Give my respects to Mrs. P., and accept the same for yourself.

Yours truly,

JUNE 2, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I received your letter last month. I like my place very much, and they all think a good deal of me, and so do I of them. We have had a sad loss in the death of our beloved President: once all was happy and rejoicing, then all seemed mournful and sad, and many eyes were wet with tears at the awful crisis which had taken place. I understood your boys presented a very fine appearance at the time of the funeral. Is that so? if it is, you had better take them to the fair, also. Mr. K. will want a boy before long—a good chance for some one. I should like very much to see one of your reports, of last year. It is getting dark, and I will have to bring my letter to a close, as I will have to go two or three miles for the paper. Give my best respects to the officers and boys in connection with the school.

Yours truly,

SEPTEMBER 5, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I now take the opportunity to drop you a line to let you know that I enjoy this place very well. I go to Sunday school whenever it don't rain, and I like it very well. I am in good health, and I hope you are. We have had a terrible bad rain; it washed away near all the bridges, and some oats, but corn does pretty well. I haven't been sick once since I left the school.

From your little friend.

MARCH 16, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I wrote to you some time since, but I never got an answer. I am going to try army life again one year. I tried it five months last summer, and was not sick one day, and I hope that God will watch over me 'as he did then—and I know he will, for I love my Savior. We have preaching every Sunday, and I wish you were here next Sunday, to give us a sermon. I do not know when we will leave. I saw M. yesterday, and like to fall in with my old companions, and talk about the Reform School, for it does me good to hear from you and the boys. I hope as soon as this comes to hand you will write me a long letter, and send me all the news, for I do not get much here. I got \$450 bounty, and \$100 Government bounty. When I receive all I will have about \$900, and then I will have a start if I come home good and well. My best respects to all.

Yours truly,

MARCH 7, 1866.

DEAR SIR,—I sit myself down to write you a few lines to let you know how I am getting along. I have not written to you for a long time. I am learning a trade in a sash, door, and blind factory in this city, and like it very well. I am healthy as ever, and hope you are, also. If you hear of my mother and sister, I hope you will let me know about them when you write to me. I hope to come and see them after I learn my trade, if I live. If ever you come to St. Louis, call on me if you have an opportunity.

Yours truly.

AUGUST 6, 1865.

DEAR FRIEND,—After my long neglect I must apologize for not writing to you; but I hope to be prompt in answering your letters hereafter. I am living with a farmer, and getting ten dollars a month, and board and washing. Father thinks I had better be in the country than in town, and so do I, for he always thinks best. I have found out there is no place like home. I used to like to run away from home, but I can say that I will never do it again. I have not been in as good health since I came home as I was in the Reform School. I would like to have been with them when they went to the city to attend the President's funeral, for I always liked to be marching with them. But I must draw to a close, so good bye.

Affectionately yours.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I take this opportunity to write a few lines to let you know that I am doing well at present, and I hope to continue so. I suppose you thought I had forgotten you because I did not write. You remember I promised to let you know when I enlisted, and I would have done so had I not seen in the papers that the quota was filled, so I thought it was no use and I enlisted for the fourth ward, and we left Chicago on the 14th March. I did not think, at that time, that I would be with you on New Year's day, as I have been the last four times; but we are ordered to muster out and report at Springfield, and may be I will give you a call before that time. After the news of Lee's and Johnson's surrender, we had to protect the very same men from guerrillas that we were sent down to fight; it seemed rather queer, but it was the most pleasant duty of the two, so the boys did it cheerfully.

Yours respectfully.

JUNE 1, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I thought you would like to hear from me after I came back from soldiering. I returned to my old place and am now working by the month. I like farming pretty well, and

I mean to have a farm of my own some day if I live. My mother died two or three years ago, I should think, from what I can learn. Give my respects to all, and the same to yourself.

FEBRUARY 6, 1866.

DEAR SIR,—I was very glad to hear from you, and am happy to say to you in return that I am well and enjoying myself first rate. We are now in comfortable winter quarters, and have plenty to eat and to wear. J. has been sick in the hospital for some time but is getting better now. I have changed my course of life, and am striving to become a follower of the Lord. I have joined the Young Men's Prayer Meeting Association, and hope to be a true Christian. I know that the Lord has been kind and good to have spared my life in the dangers I have gone through, and I hope I shall be able to lead a different life the balance of my days on earth. I hope you will not forget to pray for me, both morning and evening, and in your hour of prayer ever think of me. I thank God for the teachings I received then, they done me a great deal of good, though I did not appreciate them at the time. Give my best respects to the officers and boys. No more at present.

OCTOBER 6, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—I take the liberty of addressing you a few lines to let you know how I am. You have not heard from me for a long time. I have been around the world a great deal since I left your care, but am thankful that it has been with honor to that dear old place and myself. My father was a Colonel in the Regular Army, and died when I was six years old. He was a good kind father, and I loved him better than my life, so I joined with a recruiting officer in Canada and he sent me to England; there I got into the good graces of one of the British Generals and was sent to a graduation school. After eighteen months they sent me to India, where I was appointed aid on one of the General's staff, and afterwards promoted to Lieutenant. When I came back to England I was presented with an army medal, which was the Victoria Cross, of which I am very proud. Afterwards I volunteered to go with Garibaldi, and served him until he got wounded. When I heard there was going to be a war here I came to this country in time to have my name enrolled with the scouts of government, and I have been raised to the rank of Major, and when the war closed I was discharged; so you see I have not been idle. I am now a professed soldier, but my soldiering days are now over; our country is at peace, and, God's name be praised, our flag still waves over the free, and will so continue to do. But I have said more than I intended to, so I will close. If you wish to hear from me I will write you again on hearing from you at New York city. I remain, dear sir,
Your former scholar and obedient servant.

HV

9106

C42

C45

10th

1866

Rare

BK Rm

